Statement

List of cases involving siphoning of foreign exchange

S. No.	Persons involved	Brief facts	Amount involved	Action taken
1.	South Indian Bank, Bombay and various fictitious firms.	During 1991 and 1994, nine bank accounts were opened in the name of various Fictitious Firms and deposits into these accounts were received in cash. Remittances of about US $ 84 million were effected to parties based in Hongkong/Singapore/Dubai against bogus import documents.	Rs. 269 crores	Manager of the Bank was arrested. 4 recipients of remittances are absconding.
2.	B. C. Enterprises, CK International, Pearls International, Jay Bombay Enterprises, Raj Impex.	Remittances were made by opening fictitious accounts and using bogus documents.	Rs. 92 crores	7 persons have been arrested. Further investigation are in progress.
3.	Rama Newsprints and Papers Ltd., Surat.	More than 7 years old newspaper recycling plant imported from Canada, USA and Finland by grossly over-invoicing to the tune of US $ 5.7 million.	Rs. 2.05 crores	Redemption Fine of Rs. 1.5 crores and Personal Penalty of Rs. 15 lakhs has been imposed.

Realisation of direct and indirect taxes

*4. SHRI K. M. KHAN:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the realisation of direct and indirect taxes;

(b) the amount of direct and indirect taxes pending for realisation as on date;

(c) the plans drawn up for the expeditious collection of outstanding taxes; and

(d) the steps taken to bring to book the tax evaders, particularly the big multinational companies and film personalities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The targets fixed as per budget estimates for the year 1995-96 and amounts pending realisation in respect of major Central taxes are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

	Name of the tax	Budget Estimates for the year 1995-96	Amount outstanding (as on 31.12.95)
1.	Income tax (including Corporation tax)	29,000.00	23095.00 (Prov.)
2.	Central Excise	42,579.20	3028.38 (Prov.)
3.	Customs duty	29,500.00	150.97 (Prov.)

(c) and (d) Field formations have been directed to take necessary administrative and legal measures envisaged under the statutes to recover the outstanding dues. Concerned courts are also requested for early hearings and vacation of stay orders.

Increasing External Debt

*5. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently admitted that it had a large and increasing external debt which is causing concern for the economy as reported in Statesman dated 23.12.95;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any corrective measures to get out from this external debt; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has expressed concern about the increasing size of external debt in the White Paper Titled "India's External Debt-A Status Report". India's external debt rose to $99.0 billion on March 31, 1995. However, by September 30, 1995 external debt had declined by $5.2 billion to $93.8 billion.

(c) and (d) Government has been following a debt management strategy aimed at reducing the debt service ratio to comfortable levels. This includes measures to promote the growth of exports and other current receipts, reduce the growth of total debt, reduce the growth of expensive and short-term components of debt, and to encourage, non-debt creating inflows such as foreign investment.

Credit facilities to New Borrowers by SBI

*6. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3397 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th April, 1995, and state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the inordinate delay of more than one year in sanctioning loans by Delhi Local Head Office of State Bank of India after completion of all formalities by the new prospective borrowers;

(b) the number of cases initiated in 1994, with date of receipt of application, date of sanctioning and date of release of funds in each case;

(c) the number of cases out of those initiated in 1994 where sanction has been accorded but funds have not been released and the reasons therefor; and